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Section ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT

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PART III

Was:

**SECURITIES A** 

Washington DC

FACING PAGE

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

A PEGIS	FRANT IDENTIFICATION		<del></del>
A. NEGIO	TRAIT IDENTIFICATION	<u> </u>	
		·	OFFICIAL USE ONL
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:		j	FIRM ID. NO.
BLUEFIN TRADING, LLC		L	
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:	(Do not use P.O. Box No.)		
3 Park Avenue, 37 <sup>th</sup> Floor			
(No. and Street)			
New York	New York	10016	
(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)	
Michael Kole		(312) 577- (Area Code – Tele	
	NTANT IDENTIFICATION	(Area Code – Tele	
B. ACCOU	nion is contained in this F	(Area Code – Tele	
B. ACCOUNTANT whose opi	nion is contained in this F	(Area Code - Tele	
B. ACCOUNTANT Whose opi  Ryan & Juraska, Certified Public Accoun  (Name – if individual, state last, first, middle name)	nion is contained in this F	(Area Code – Tele	phone No)

<sup>\*</sup>Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES PURSUANT TO SEC RULE 17a-5(d)

December 31, 2012
AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION



RYAN & JURASKA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES PURSUANT TO SEC RULE 17a-5(d)

December 31, 2012

AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

# **OATH OR AFFIRMATION**

statem 2012 a princip	e Kole swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the accompanying financi- nents and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of <u>Bluefin Trading, LLC</u> as of <u>December 3</u> are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprieto all officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of ner, except as follows:
	None
	mul ju
	Signature
	Chief Financial Officer
	Title
Subscr	ribed and sworn to before me this
27th	day of February, 2013
be	"OFFICIAL SEAL" Philip C Ryan Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Expires 8/20/2016  Notary Public
This re	eport** contains (check all applicable boxes)
[x] (a)	Facing Page.
[x] (b)	
[ ](c)	
[ ] (e)	Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
[ ] (f)	Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of General Creditors.
[ <b>x</b> ] (g) [ <b>x</b> ] (h)	Computation of Net Capital for Brokers and Dealers pursuant to Rule 15c3-1.  Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
[ <b>x</b> ] (i)	Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements for Brokers and Dealers Under Rule 15c3-3.
[](j)	A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rul 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A c Rule 15c3-3.
[ ](k)	A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition wit
[ <b>x</b> ] (l)	respect to methods of consolidation. An Oath or Affirmation.
[ ] (m)	A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
[ ] (n)	
	date of the previous audit.
[x] (o)	Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Accounting Control.
[ <b>x</b> ] (p)	Schedule of Segregation Requirements and Funds in Segregation – Customers' Regulate Commodity Futures Accounts Pursuant to CFTC Rule 1.11(d)2(iv).

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see Section 240.17a-5(e)(3).



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

RYAN & JURASKA
Certified Public Accountants

141 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

To the Member of Bluefin Trading, LLC

#### Report on the Financial Statement

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Bluefin Trading, LLC, (the "Company") as of December 31, 2012 that is filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the related notes to the financial statement.

## Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the inancial statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statement in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Bluefin Trading, LLC as of December 31, 2012, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Report on Other Regulatory Requirements

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statement as a whole. The information contained in the supplementary schedules is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statement, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement. The information in the supplementary schedules has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information in the supplementary schedules is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

Chicago, Illinois February 26, 2013

Fryan & Juraska

# **Statement of Financial Condition**

# **December 31, 2012**

Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents Receivable from broker-dealers Securities owned, at fair value Membership in exchanges, at fair value Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$1,443,529)	\$	11,182,401 47,909,314 1,124,323,400 86,000
Receivable from affiliates Other assets	_	540,644 577,302
	\$ _	1,185,346,904
Liabilities and Member's Equity  Liabilities Payable to broker-dealers Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value Loan payable to parent Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ - -	185,850,791 917,553,604 1,500,000 4,943,283 1,109,847,678
Member's equity	_	75,499,226
	\$	1,185,346,904

## **Notes to Statement of Financial Condition**

**December 31, 2012** 

## 1. Organization and Business

Bluefin Trading, LLC (the "Company"), a New York limited liability company, was formed in May 2001 and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bluefin Holdings II, L.P. (the "Parent"). Effective January 1, 2012, the Parent converted from a New York limited liability company, Bluefin Holdings L.L.C., to a Delaware limited partnership. The Company is a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is a member of NYSE Arca, Chicago Mercantile Exchange ("CME"), Commodity Exchange, Inc. ("COMEX"), Chicago Board Options Exchange and NASDAQ OMX. The Company engages primarily in the proprietary trading of exchange-traded funds, equity securities, equity and index options, and futures contracts.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Revenue Recognition and Securities Valuation

Securities transactions and related revenue and expenses are recorded on a trade date basis and, accordingly gains and losses are recorded on unsettled transactions. Futures transactions and resulting gains and losses are recorded on a trade date basis, and, accordingly, gains and losses are recorded on open futures contracts. Securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased are recorded in the statement of financial condition at fair value in accordance with ASC 820 "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures". The carrying values of cash, receivables and payables approximate fair value due to the short maturities of these financial instruments.

Open equity in futures is included in receivable from broker-dealers and measured at the closing exchange price.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("U.S. GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

# Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents consist of money market mutual funds.

#### Income Taxes

No provision has been made for federal U.S. income taxes as the taxable income or loss of the Company is included in the respective income tax returns of the member.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the Company is required to determine whether its tax positions are more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, based on the technical merits of the position. Generally, the Company is no longer subject to income tax examinations by major taxing authorities for the years before 2009. Based on its analysis, there were no tax positions identified by management which did not meet the "more likely than not" standard as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012.

# Notes to Statement of Financial Condition, Continued

**December 31, 2012** 

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

### Translation of Foreign Currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated to U.S. dollars at yearend exchange rates, while revenue and expenses are translated to U.S. dollars at prevailing rates during the year.

## Depreciation and Amortization

Furniture and equipment is being depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets using the straight-line method. The Company purchased leasehold improvements for shared office space leased by an affiliated entity. Leasehold improvements are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the associated lease.

## 3. Agreements and Related Party Transactions

The Company has Joint Back Office ("JBO") clearing agreements with Merrill Lynch Professional Clearing Corp. ("ML-PRO") and Goldman Sachs Execution & Clearing, L.P. ("GSEC"). The agreements allow JBO participants to receive favorable margin treatment as compared to the full customer margin requirements of Regulation T. As part of these agreements, the Company has invested \$50,000 in the preferred shares of ML-PRO and \$10,000 in a Class C limited partnership interest in GSEC. The Company's investments in ML-PRO and GSEC are reflected in other assets in the statement of financial condition. Under the rules of the NASDAQ OMX, the agreements require that the Company maintain a minimum net liquidating equity of \$1 million with ML-PRO and GSEC, exclusive of its preferred stock investment and partnership interest.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had receivables from affiliated entities totaling approximately \$541,000. This receivable represents the amounts paid for shared expenses by the Company on behalf of the affiliates. During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Company received payments totaling approximately \$10,041,000 from Bluefin Europe LLP, Bluefin Energy, LLC, the Parent, CCM FS, LLC and CCM Securities, LLC. The Company made payments to and Bluefin Europe LLP and the Parent totaling approximately \$13,158,000, for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The Company has a revolving loan agreement with the Parent up to a maximum of \$50,000,000 that terminates on January 31, 2016. Interest is paid on the outstanding principal loan balance at a rate equal to the federal funds rate plus one percent. At December 31, 2012, the Company had an outstanding balance on this credit line totaling \$1,500,000. The company received payments from and made loan repayments to the Parent totaling \$47,225,000 and \$55,475,000, respectively, for the year ended December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012, interest payable on the outstanding balance on this credit line totaled approximately \$2,000.

# Notes to Statement of Financial Condition, Continued December 31, 2012

## 4. Exchange Memberships

At December 31, 2012, the Company owned memberships at the CME and COMEX. The Company's operating agreement requires exchange memberships to be valued at the last publicly-reported sales price if such sales price is between the last publicly-reported bid and offer. Otherwise the value will be whichever of the last publicly-reported bid or offer is closer to the last publicly-reported sale. Therefore, as of December 31, 2012 the value of the Company's exchange memberships are shown at fair value in the statement of financial condition.

U.S. GAAP requires that such memberships be recorded at cost, or, if a permanent impairment in value has occurred, at a value that reflects management's estimate of the fair value. The effect of this departure from generally accepted accounting principles is an understatement of member's equity by \$(165,239) as of December 31, 2012. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the effect of this departure from U.S. GAAP is immaterial.

#### 5. Concentration of Credit Risk

At December 31, 2012, a significant credit concentration consisted of approximately \$62 million and \$6.8 million, representing the fair value of the Company's trading accounts carried by its clearing brokers, ML-PRO and GSEC. Management does not consider any credit risk associated with these receivables to be significant.

At December 31, 2012 a significant credit concentration consisted of cash deposited in bank accounts that exceeded federally insured limits by approximately \$12.3 million which represents approximately 16% of the Company's equity. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts. Management believes the Company is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash.

## 6. Receivable from and Payable to Broker-Dealers

Receivable from and payable to broker-dealers includes cash balances held at the Company's brokers, unrealized gains and losses on open futures contracts and the net amount receivable or payable for securities transactions pending settlement. The brokers provide execution, clearing and depository services for the Company's securities and futures trading activities.

#### 7. Financial Instruments

ASC 815 "Derivatives and Hedging" requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of and gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The disclosure requirements of ASC 815 distinguish between derivatives which are accounted for as "hedges" and those that do not qualify for such accounting. Although the Company may sometimes use derivatives, the Company reflects derivatives at fair value and recognizes changes in fair value through the Statement of Operations, and as such do not qualify for ASC 815 hedge accounting treatment.

# Notes to Statement of Financial Condition, Continued December 31, 2012

## 7. Financial Instruments, continued

In the normal course of business the Company enters into transactions in derivative financial instruments that include equity and index options contracts and futures contracts, as part of the Company's overall trading strategy. All derivative instruments are held for trading purposes. All positions are reported in the accompanying statement of financial condition at fair value.

Futures contracts provide for the delayed delivery/receipt of the underlying instrument. As a writer of options contracts, the Company receives a premium in exchange for giving the counterparty the right to buy or sell the underlying instrument at a future date at a contracted price. The contractual or notional amounts related to these financial instruments reflect the volume and activity and do not reflect the amounts at risk. Futures contracts are executed on an exchange, and cash settlement is made on a daily basis for market movements. Accordingly, futures contracts generally do not have credit risk. Market risk is substantially dependent upon the value of the underlying instruments and is affected by market forces such as volatility and changes in interest and foreign exchange rates.

Options contracts grant the purchaser, for the payment of a premium, the right to either purchase from or sell to the writer a specified financial instrument under agreed terms. As a writer of options contracts, the Company receives a premium in exchange for bearing the risk of unfavorable changes in the price of the financial instruments underlying the options.

Securities sold, not yet purchased and short options represent obligations of the Company to deliver the specified security and, thereby, create a liability to repurchase the security in the market at prevailing prices. Accordingly, these transactions result in risk as the Company's satisfaction of the obligations may exceed the amount recognized in the statement of financial condition.

Risk arises from the potential inability of counterparties to perform under the terms of the contracts (credit risk) and from changes in the values of the underlying financial instruments (market risk). The Company is subject to credit risk to the extent any broker with whom it conducts business is unable to fulfill contractual obligations on its behalf. The Company attempts to minimize its exposure to credit risk by monitoring brokers with which it conducts investment activities. In management's opinion, market risk is substantially diminished when all financial instruments are aggregated.

#### 8. Employee Benefit Plan

The Company has established a 401(k) plan for qualified employees. The Company can elect to match employees' contributions and make further discretionary contributions to the plan, subject to certain limitations as set forth in the plan agreement. Employee contributions made to the plan during the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled approximately \$291,000.

# Notes to Statement of Financial Condition, Continued December 31, 2012

## 9. Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15(c)3-1) and various exchange rules. Under the highest requirement, the Company is required to maintain "net capital" equal to the greater of \$100,000 or 63% of "aggregate indebtedness", as defined.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had net capital and net capital requirements of \$71,861,293 and \$435,427, respectively.

#### 10. Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure

ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and establishes a fair value hierarchy which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. A fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability occurs in the principal market for the asset or liability or, in the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market. Valuation techniques that are consistent with the market, income or cost approach, as specified by ASC 820, are used to measure fair value.

The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities the Company has the ability to access.
- Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability and rely on management's own assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The unobservable inputs should be developed based on the best information available in the circumstances and may include the Company's own data.

#### 10. Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure, continued

The following table presents the Company's fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2012:

		Level 1			
	_	Assets		Liabilities	
		Securities Owned	- <del>-</del>	Securities Sold, Not Yet Purchased	
Stocks	\$	949,359,587	\$	597,326,672	
Options		122,647,058		154,683,452	
Corporate obligations		43,647,012		18,214,419	
U.S. Government obligations		4,975,755		130,160,229	
U.S. Government agency obligations		-		1,455,911	
State and municipal obligations		66,678		455,140	
Foreign Government obligations	_	3,627,310	_	15,257,781	
	\$_	1,124,323,400	\$_	917,553,604	

At December 31, 2012, the Company had open futures contracts totaling \$(365,696), which were Level 1 investments. At December 31, 2012, the Company held no Level 2 or Level 3 investments.

#### 11. Commitments

The Company conducts its operations in leased office facilities and annual rentals are charged to current operations. The leases are subject to escalation clauses based on the operating expenses of the lessor.

The minimum annual rental commitments under a non-cancelable operating lease totaled approximately \$5,000 as of December 31, 2012.

#### 12. Guarantees

ASC 460, Guarantees, requires the Company to disclose information about its obligations under certain guarantee arrangements. ASC 460, defines guarantees as contracts and indemnification agreements that contingently require a guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on changes in underlying (such as an interest or foreign ecxchange rate, security or commodity price, an index or the occurrence or nonoccurrence of a specified event) related to an asset, liability or equity security of a guaranteed party. This guidance also defines guarantees as contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on another entity's failure to perform under an agreement, as well as indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others.

# Notes to Statement of Financial Condition, Continued December 31, 2012

## 12. Guarantees, continued

#### **Derivative Contracts**

Certain derivative contracts meet the accounting definition of a guarantee, including certain options written, contingent forward contracts and credit default swaps. Although the Company's derivative arrangements do not specifically identify whether the derivative counterparty retains the underlying asset, liability or equity security, the Company has disclosed information regarding all derivative contracts that could meet the accounting definition of a guarantee. The maximum potential payout for certain derivative contracts, such as written foreign currency options, cannot be estimated, as increases in foreign exchange rates in the future could possibly be unlimited. In certain situations, collateral may be held by the Company for those contracts that meet the definition of a guarantee. Generally, the Company sets collateral requirements by counterparty so that the collateral covers various transactions and products and is not allocated specifically to individual contracts. Also, the Company may recover amounts related to the underlying asset delivered to the Company under the derivative contract.

The Company records all derivative contracts at fair value. Aggregate market risk limits have been established, and market risk measures are routinely monitored against these limits. The Company also manages its exposure to these derivative contracts through a variety of risk mitigation strategies, including, but not limited to, entering into offsetting economic hedge positions. The Company believes that the notional amounts of the derivative contracts generally overstate its exposure.

## 13. Subsequent Events

The Company's management has evaluated events and transactions through February 26, 2013, the date the financial statements were issued, noting no material events requiring disclosure in the Company's financial statements other than those listed below.

In January 2013 capital withdrawals were paid to the Parent totaling \$48,500,000.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

# Computation of Net Capital for Broker and Dealers pursuant to Rule 15c3-1

# **December 31, 2012**

Computation of net capital				
Total member's equity			\$	75,499,226
Deductions and/or charges: Nonallowable assets: Exchange memberships, at fair value Furniture and equipment, net Receivable from affiliates Other assets	\$	86,000 727,843 540,644 577,302		(1,931,789)
Net capital before haircuts on securities positions				73,567,437
Haircuts on securities: Trading and investment securities: Other securities	\$_	1,706,144	- <u>-</u>	(1,706,144)
Net capital			\$ _	71,861,293
Computation of basic capital requirement				
Minimum net capital required (greater of \$100,000 or 6 ¾% of aggregate indebtedness)			_	435,427
Net capital in excess of net capital requirement			\$ _	71,425,866
Computation of aggregate indebtedness				
Aggregate indebtedness			\$_	6,531,399
Ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital			%_	9.09

There are no material differences between the above computation and the Company's corresponding unaudited Form FOCUS Part II filing as of December 31, 2012.

Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 December 31, 2012

The Company did not handle any customer cash or securities during the year ended December 31, 2012 and does not have any customer accounts.

## **BLUEFIN TRADING, LLC**

Information Relating to Possession or Control Requirements pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 December 31, 2012

The Company did not handle any customer cash or securities during the year ended December 31, 2012 and does not have any customer accounts.



RYAN & JURASKA
Certified Public Accountants

141 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Tel: 312.922.0062 Fax: 312.922.0672

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the Member of Bluefin Trading, LLC

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Bluefin Trading, LLC (the "Company") as of December 31, 2012, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Company's internal control over financial reporting as basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including consideration of control activities for safeguarding securities. This study included tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g), in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- (1) Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons and recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13
- (2) Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's previously mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of an internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of the financial statement in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.



A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of Company's financial statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first and second paragraphs and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control and control activities for safeguarding securities and certain firm assets that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined previously.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures, as described in the second paragraph of this report, were adequate at December 31, 2012 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the SEC, NASDAQ OMX and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Chicago, Illinois

February 26, 2013

Fryan & Juraska